

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Ellen Marcie Emas on 10/09/2009.

2. The claims have been amended as follows:

Claim 1 (line 5), "for producing image data" has been changed to --for producing the image data--.

Claim 1 (line 17), "mixing ratios" has been changed to --predetermined mixing ratios--.

Claim 4 (lines 6-7), "for producing image data, in the second format," has been changed to --for producing the image data in the second format--.

Claim 4 (line 17), "mixing ratios" has been changed to --predetermined mixing ratios--.

Claim 5 (line 1), "The frame-converting circuit" has been changed to --The converting circuit--.

Claim 6 (line 1), "The frame-converting circuit" has been changed to --The converting circuit--.

Claim 7 (lines 8-9), "for producing image data, in the second format," has been changed to --for producing the image data in the second format--.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1-8 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 4 and 7, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a converting circuit as claimed in claim 4 or an electronic camera as claimed in claim 7, comprising:

a third circuit outputting the image data of the odd field in the second format by mixing image data of an odd field of the first image data and image data of an odd field of the second image data at a first predetermined mixing ratio, and outputting the image data of the even field in the second format by mixing image data of an even field of the first image data and image data of an even field of the second image data at a second predetermined mixing ratio;

a fourth circuit changing the first and second predetermined mixing ratios every field period in the second format, in combination with other claimed elements.

Claim 1 is a method claim of claim 7, therefore, claim 1 is allowed for the reason given in claim 7.

Claims 2-3 are allowed as being dependent from claim 1.

Claims 5-6 are allowed as being dependent from claim 4.

Claim 8 is allowed as being dependent from claim 7.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LUONG T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-7315. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, DAVID L. OMETZ can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.